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and alone will more than compensate anyone for the purchase of the work. It is to be hoped that in the future the author will amplify this part of the work and publish it separately.

The publisher has done his part of the work excellently, on the whole. However, where many cases are cited on a given proposition (as on page 342), it might be helpful to the reader if the cases cited from the different States were printed in separate groups, indicated by spacing, or in some other way.

Mr. Beale's statement on p. 442 that a meeting for organization cannot probably be held outside of the parent State, even where it is expressly permitted by statute, may well cause an uneasy feeling to those connected with West Virginia corporations, but fortunately for them, he cites no authority in support of this statement. A similar tendency to make somewhat too general a statement is shown on pp. 443-5, where, in the text, at least, it seems assumed that in the absence of prohibition, directors can meet anywhere. As an academic proposition, Mr. BEALE's position is hardly open to doubt, but, as there are cases to the contrary, a careful corporation lawyer cannot run the risk of allowing his directors to meet out of the State, unless expressly authorized by statute or a decision in his own State.

Subject to commendation, as a careful copy of a statute is, it sometimes leads to peculiar results when previous qualifying passages are omitted, and in his present work, as a result of this, Prof. BEALE has given to that soulless entity of the text-book writers—a corporation—a compensating feature. Soulless it may continue to be! But never in the future can we say that it is not open to the tender passions and possessed of a seat for those passions—a heart! For how otherwise can the following be explained: "A warrant of attachment against the property of a foreign corporation may be granted where the action is for breach of contract, express or implied (*other than a contract to marry*)"? (P. 269.)

AN EXPOSITION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.
Henry Flanders. Fifth edition, revised and enlarged. Philadelphia:
T. & J. W. Johnson & Co. 1904. pp. xii, 326.

The author of this admirable little book had a three-fold purpose in mind, namely, "to supply a convenient manual of instruction to the youth of our country; to make clear and intelligible to the unprofessional reader the fundamental law of our federative system of government; and at the same time to produce a work which might also be useful to the bar."

In at least two of these purposes the author has produced an eminently successful piece of work, for youth and unprofessional reader will find in this little book the principles of the constitution clearly, concisely and accurately expounded in a style at once as scholarly as it is readable.

But is hard to see how it can be of service to the bar unless it be to give at glance the principle for which authority must be sought for elsewhere. The reason of the thing the lawyer would indeed find in the turning of a page, for Mr. Flanders has "sought to set forth the reasons upon which each clause of the constitution rests, as well as

the interpretation that has been given to it by the authoritative exposition of the courts (and so far as practicable, in the precise language of the courts), or by the well-established practice of the government."

But in so doing—and it is no small praise that the author has realized his purpose—he has refrained from the citation of authority of any kind and he has abstained almost wholly from citing adjudged cases. A careful examination of the text discloses a total of nine with a possible tenth—the Northern Securities Company's case—as a footnote to page 123. This fact limits its usefulness not only for the professional but for the youth and unprofessional reader. The book can be taken as a statement of the law and its reason, but the absence of historical and documentary evidence in the form of notes and references makes the book substantially a reader's not a student's book, and the absence of adjudged cases deprives it of serious claims upon the attention of the practitioner.

As a statement of the law, bearing in mind the limitations suggested, the book is one of unqualified excellence. Almost any paragraph might be quoted as evidence of this. The treatment of the clause dealing with the impairment of the obligation of contracts (Sections 255–274) might be singled out, and the difference between the obligation imposed by contract and that created by tort in Section 260 with that of *State of Louisiana v. New Orleans* (1883) 109 U. S. 285, shows how carefully the venerable author has mastered the law of the cases.

There is, however, a slip in Section 167, for while it is true that the existing Bankruptcy Act was approved in 1898, the act was amended on February 7, 1903. There are a few misprints; one in section 453 ("sutgetive" for "fugitive") and in the last paragraph of the text, the printer lost type and reason as well.

It should be said that the book has an unusually large index for so small a text, and that in the appendix Mr. Flanders has been minded to bring together the texts of The Declaration of Independence; The Articles of Confederation; Resolutions and Letter Transmitted to Congress by the Federal Convention, and Washington's Farewell Address.

AN OUTLINE OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK. George Arthur Ingalls, B. A., Counsellor-at-Law. Albany, N. Y.: Matthew Bender. 1904. pp. 79.

Mr. Ingalls has succeeded in making intelligible to the reader the system of government of the City of New York. A long and complicated charter is indeed necessary but well nigh impossible reading for the layman, for as Mr. Ingalls justly says in the preface to his modest little brochure: "One may examine every detail and yet have as ill proportioned an idea of the whole as would be gained by looking at all the pieces of an unfinished mosaic."

The author has clearly accomplished his purpose in a sober, straightforward style, namely, to "summarize the constitutional provisions which relate to county government and elections in cities, classes of cities, and special city laws; and to set forth the organization, general powers, and compensation of the legislative, executive,